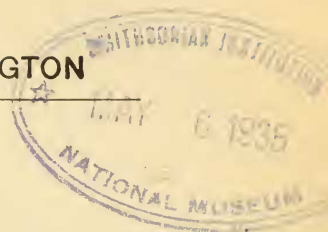


PROCEEDINGS  
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A NEW HAWK OF THE GENUS GERANOSPIZA.

BY JAMES L. PETERS.

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In the first volume of my Check-List I regarded *Geranospiza*, a genus of Neotropical Accipitridae, as composed of three species,—*nigra*, *caerulescens* and *gracilis*. At the time I worked on these birds I had seen insufficient material, particularly from eastern and southern Brazil, but in the light of additional specimens since received I now agree with both Chapman and Hellmayr that *Geranospiza* should be regarded as monotypic and all the forms treated as subspecies.

A specimen from the Argentine Chaco that has lain in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy for several years under the name of *gracilis* has not been recognized as belonging to an undescribed race in default of comparative material of topotypical *gracilis* (*Falco gracilis* Temminck, Pl. col., livr. 16, 1821, pl. 91, eastern parts of Brazil). Suspicion was first aroused by the receipt of a male of *gracilis* taken in southeastern Bahia by Dr. O. Pinto of the Museum Paulista which agreed with Temminck's plate in the absence of barred wing coverts, whereas in the Argentine specimen the wing coverts are regularly and conspicuously barred; this is also shown by the bird from Salta, Argentina, figured in Swann's "Monograph" (Monogr. Bds. Prey, pt. 3, pl. lower fig.) and two specimens from Kilometer 80, west of Puerto Pinasco, Paraguay, collected by Dr. Wetmore and kindly loaned to me by Dr. Friedmann. It was with some astonishment I found that Laubmann (Wiss. Ergebn. Deutsch. Gran Chaco-Exped., Vögel, 1930, p. 99) was unable to distinguish his two Argentine and Bolivian specimens from an east Brazilian bird in the Munich Museum.

In an effort to bring the matter to a conclusion I appealed to Dr. Hellmayr, who most generously furnished me with information about all the specimens of *gracilis* that he had examined, 14 in all, of which he had ten at hand when he wrote me. Hellmayr's notes show conclusively that there is no geographic correlation between barred wing coverts and uniform wing coverts; some specimens from eastern Brazil having them barred while in others from the southern part of the range they were plain. The wing measurements that he furnished, however, indicate a constant size differ-

ence, sex for sex, between northern and southern birds and I therefore distinguish

***Geranospiza caerulescens flexipes*, subsp. nov.**

*Type*.—No. 99141, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, adult ♀, Resistencia, Chaco, Argentina. Collected 18 July, 1915, by J. Mogensen.

*Characters*.—similar to *G. c. gracilis* (Temminck) of eastern Brazil but larger. The white barring on the underparts instantly distinguishes both *gracilis* and *flexipes* from the other forms of the genus.

WING MEASUREMENTS<sup>1</sup>

*Geranospiza caerulescens gracilis.*

♂		♀	
*Paragua, Piauhy .....	270 <i>b</i>	*Rio Preto, Bahia .....	300 <i>b</i>
*Ceara .....	280	*Rio Preto, Bahia .....	300 <i>b</i>
Rio Jucuruçu, Bahia .....	271	*Lamarao, Bahia .....	314

*Geranospiza caerulescens flexipes.*

*Araguay, Goyaz.....	308 <i>b</i>	*Araguay, Goyaz.....	320
*Pansecco, Matto Grosso.....	300	*Cuyabá, Matto Grosso....	340 <i>b</i>
*Sabauna, Sao Paulo.....	308	*Descalvados Mat. Grosso	326
(originally sexed as ♀)		*Santa Cruz, Bolivia.....	337
Puerto Pinasco, Paraguay..	312 <i>b</i>	Resistencia, Chaco.....	360 <i>b</i>
Puerto Pinasco, Paraguay..	300 <i>b</i>	*Corrientes.....	325 <sup>2</sup>

The description and measurements given by Swann in his monograph appear to be based entirely on the southern race. In addition to the plate already mentioned, he gives the wing of males as measuring from 314–325 and that of females 340–375.

<sup>1</sup> The specimens marked with an asterisk \* are those measured by Dr. Hellmayr; those followed by a letter *b* have strongly barred wing coverts.

<sup>2</sup> Originally sexed as ♂ perhaps correctly so in view of the large size of the Chaco specimen.